

The following chart answers these questions with a suggested weekly schedule for spray-head irrigation. It assumes clay loam soils common to most of Newport Beach service area.



Generally, these are the MAXIMUM times you will need for full sun areas. Begin with this schedule and increase water run times only if your plants show signs of stress. If stress occurs only in isolated areas, check the operation of your irrigation system including leaks or breaks in your spray nozzles before increasing the time.

| Month | Turfgrass | Trees, Shrubs, Groundcover | Notes | % Option *** |
|-------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------|
| January | 2 days, 2 cycles* of 2 minutes | 1 day, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes | Turn water off before rains and let soil dry before turning water on again. | 30% |
| February | 2 days, 2 cycles* of 2 minutes | 1 day, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes | - | 30% |
| March | 3 days, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes | 2 days, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes | March/April is the most active growth period for turfgrass and other plants. Be sure to water adequately. | 50% |
| April | 3 days, 2 cycles* of 4 minutes | 2 days, 2 cycles* of 4 minutes | March/April is the most active growth period for turfgrass and other plants. Be sure to water adequately. | 70% |
| May | 3 days, 3 cycles* of 3 minutes | 2 days, 3 cycles* of 3 minutes | - | 80% |
| June | 3 days, 2 cycles* of 5 minutes | 3 days, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes | - | 100% |
| July | 4 days, 3 cycles* of 3 minutes | 2 days, 3 cycles* of 4 minutes | - | 100% |
| August | 4 days, 3 cycles* of 3 minutes | 2 days, 3 cycles* of 4 minutes | - | 100% |
| September** | 4 days, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes | 2 days, 2 cycles* of 4 minutes | - | 70% |
| October** | 3 days, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes | 2 days, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes | - | 50% |
| November** | 2 days, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes | 1 day, 2 cycles* of 4 minutes | - | 40% |
| December | 2 days, 2 cycles* of 2 minutes | 1 day, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes | - | 30% |

* By "cycling" the irrigation controller to turn on for the recommended number of minutes an hour apart, deeper watering and healthier root growth are gained, while runoff is reduced.

** In September, plants' water needs drop by approximately 30 percent even if the temperature is hotter, because the days are shorter, so evaporation decreases. Also plants begin to go into a dormant phase where they need less water. In some years, humidity is also higher, increasing your level of discomfort, but decreasing plants' water needs as it slows the rate of evaporation. This rapid drop in water needs will continue in October and November.

*** The percent option, either a button or a dial, permits the watering run times for all electric valves managed by a controller to be increased or decreased with just one adjustment by percentage.